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SOUTHERN STAR
MYSURU

Serpentine queues outside liquor shops

- Parched booze-lovers head towards wine stores at the crack of dawn
- Social distancing goes for a toss as crowds refuse to toe the line

Mysuru, May 4 (MTY&BCT)- After rationing their pegs for 41 days, people were seen lined-up outside liquor shops in Mysuru this morning. As liquor stores opened across the city — with the easing of lockdown restrictions in the third phase — booze-lovers ushered in the resumption of liquor sales in a spirited fashion. At some places people queued outside liquor stores from 5 am. Liquor outlets had been shut in the State from Mar. 25 following the lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. Even before the shutters went up, people thronged stores at several places and made no secret of their celebratory mood.

According to Government orders, liquor stores are now going to remain open in Orange, Green and Red Zones (barring the Containment Zones) and only in standalone shops like wine stores and MSIL outlets are allowed to operate till 7 pm after which people cannot step out for non-essential commodities.

Stores have also been asked to ensure their customers practice social distancing and maintain a gap of 2 mts. between each other. Photos and videos of people flocking to alcohol stores and queuing up outside the shops from the wee hours of the morning have been flooding social media. Netizens posted hilarious jokes and memes as visuals of the queues outside liquor shops. Several users also shared film stills to depict the scenario.

In most areas, people seem to have forgotten all about social distancing and the dangers of gathering in a public place.

(See LIQUOR on page 6)

One-way, one-time inter-district pass to enter Mysuru

Stranded people brought to city from Bengaluru in KSRTC bus; later home quarantined

Mysuru, May 4 (BCT)- The State Government has decided to allow one-way, one-time inter-district passes to facilitate people stranded in other cities to return home. The pass can be obtained online at https://kspclearpass.idp.mygate.com/

However, there are certain conditions imposed for pass holders. It will be a one-way and one-time pass. For two-wheelers, only one rider is allowed, no pillion. Cars and jeeps, three adults including driver and two minor children, if any (less than 12 years) are allowed entry.

The inter-district pass can be a digital one or a printed one that has to be carried by the applicant. At the check posts, pass date, validity, valid permit and vehicle number will be checked and cross-verified.

The pass will mention the number of adults and children and only that many persons should travel. Personnel at the check post will mandatorily check for valid ID cards of travellers. People are allowed to travel only to the destination mentioned and not to any other places.

Any violation, the vehicle will not be permitted to enter or exit and for violations, the applicant will be liable for prosecution under the relevant provisions of law.

(See PASS on page 6)

STAR PUNCH By Satish Acharya

Heavy rains lash city

Trees, electric poles uprooted; cow electrocuted

Mysuru, May 4 (RK&DM)- The heavy rains accompanied by thunderstorms and strong winds that lashed the city late last night has resulted in a large number of trees and electric poles getting uprooted in many parts of the city. Fortunately, no human casualties or major damages were reported.

Huge branches of trees fell and a couple of small trees and about 15 electric poles were damaged and uprooted on the stretch between Jaladarshini Guest House and Petrol Bunk opposite the DC Office Arch Gate on Hunsur Road.

As a result, the road was blocked for vehicular movement. The Abhaya team of MCC and CESC officials rushed to the spot to clear the road and the clearance work went on till afternoon.

As a precautionary measure, CESC had cut off power supply in almost the entire city for over an hour for clearing damaged and uprooted electric poles.

A parked car was damaged when a huge branch of a tree fell on it near Kuvempunagar Water Tank. Uprooting of trees and roadside electric poles were also reported from Vijayanagar 4th Stage, on some stretches of JLB road, near Highway Circle in Bannimantap, near the City Police Commissioner's Office on Mirza road, near RTO (West) Office in Chamarajapuram, Dr. Ambedkar road, Bogadi etc.

MCC and CESC authorities visited all the spots from where complaints of uprooting of trees or electric poles were received and cleared them on a war-footing. Storm water is also reported to have gushed into several houses in a few low-lying areas of the city, causing inconvenience to residents.

Rammanahalli in the taluk too received heavy overnight showers accompanied by strong winds. A couple of trees got uprooted in the village. However, no damages were reported.

Cow electrocuted in Vijayanagar

However, in an unfortunate incident, a cow was electrocuted when it came in contact with a live electric cable hanging from a broken electric pole in Vijayanagar 3rd Stage late last night.

Meanwhile, sources in the Control Room at the DC Office said that the taluk received an average rainfall of 5.9 mm yesterday night.

Yuva Brigade translocates huge banyan tree, gives it a new lease of life

Members of Yuva Brigade loading the uprooted banyan tree on to the tractor to be translocated at a new place. Picture right shows tiny green leaves that have begun to sprout from the banyan tree.

Nanjangud, May 4 (RS&KS)- A huge banyan tree on Jeevargi-Chamarajanagar National Highway-150 'A' near Golur in Nanjangud taluk, that was uprooted to take up the Highway works has been translocated to a new place by the Yuva Brigade.

The volunteers of the Yuva Brigade, who saw the huge banyan tree with its branches chopped and uprooted, decided to give the tree a new lease of life and consulted tree expert Vijay Anand. Under his (Vijay Anand) guidance, the volunteers on Jan. 27 lifted the huge tree with the help of a crane and shifted it on a tractor near the bathing ghat of Kapila River, about 1.5 km away from the spot and planted it on the banks of the river.

The efforts of Yuva Brigade in nurturing the tree for more than two months has not gone for a waste as tiny green leaves have started to sprout from the tree trunk giving a smile on the faces of Yuva Brigade volunteers.

Had not the tree been translocated, the huge banyan tree would have got dried and chopped for firewood. The volunteers have received appreciation for their efforts.

VOICE OF THE READER

Are some more equal than others in COVID times?

Sir,

I am baffled, dismayed and disappointed by the way our people conduct themselves as if they believe in the adage, "All are equal but some are more equal than others."

I am saying this with references to some of the news reports published in *Star of Mysore* dated May 2. I am referring to three events: 1. Corona Warriors feted on Labour Day; 2. S.T. Somashekar calls on Ganapathy Swamiji and Sthankvasi Jain Yuvas distribute grocery kits to physically challenged.

The interesting aspect is that all these events are strangely connected to the pandemic. Then, why is there no respect for keeping 'social distance' or strictly wearing 'face masks' or wearing 'hand gloves' ? How are these really sure that one of them is not a carrier of COVID-19 ?

While I too wholeheartedly respect and appreciate all three events for their genuine intention, I am appalled to think, whether they are not endangering their own safety and the safety of others, by simply throwing to the wind the cautions, shouted from roof-tops by the same sections of society who comprise these groups.

Will Corona understand their intentions and spare them while many 'on duty' doctors, Prime Ministers and Royalty are themselves becoming victims, in spite of rigorous discipline followed ? Why don't they want to be careful ? Is it so because they think, this is their routine and they are getting used to it ?

The difference between 'social distance' and 'quarantine' or 'isolation' is to be properly understood and respected by ALL WITHOUT exception. So let's NOT DO anything that increases the spread of the Virus.

We all are aware that millions of unfortunate and helpless migrant workers have fled to their rural homes, sparking fears of importing the Corona virus. Prime Minister Modi has publicly asked nation's forgiveness acknowledging the chaos and suffering the unavoidable lockdown has brought on our country's poor and helpless. As some body said, containing Corona Virus is as astoundingly perplexing as "Trying to put out a fire, without knowing where the fire is or how fast it can spread."

Such being the scenario globally and our country also passing through a very tough time, it is the holiest task and responsibility of every one, whether he is an ordinary citizen or somebody in the Government or NGO to very seriously follow rules of the time and save himself and save the community, by being constantly vigilant.

Please follow the concept of social distance, wear face masks and hand gloves whenever and where ever you are in public.

— Prof. K.V. Satyan
Camp : Dallas , Texas
2.5.2020

Mysuru-born UK doctor gets accolades in COVID-19 fightback

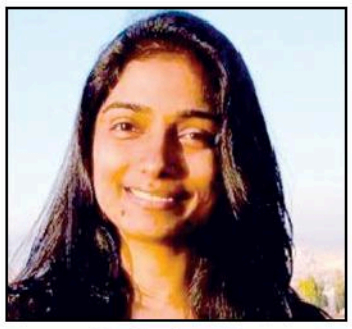
By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Mysuru, May 4- Indian doctors have often been referred to as the backbone of the United Kingdom's National Health Service (NHS), with an estimated 60,000 medics from India working for the State-funded health service.

It is doctors like Mysuru-origin Sankeerthana Subramaniam who are the ones leading the fight against COVID-19. The frontline in this war has a few thousand doctors of Indian origin. Some of these people were born in India but migrated in search of the UK dream after completing professional education.

They still have strong family connections in the country of their birth. And, naturally, they have to share the risks associated with their profession. Dr. Sankeerthana Subramaniam has come to the limelight at the Torbay Hospital, South Devon's main hospital, managed by the Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust. She has treated many COVID-19 patients and has got appreciation from both patients and her team of senior doctors.

Over the past few decades, thousands of Indian doctors and nurses have moved to the UK. They serve in remote areas where British doctors refuse to go. Second and third-generation doctors of Indian origin here have specialised in key areas such as emergency medicine and pulmonary diseases. They are now at the frontline of treating the COVID-19 pandemic in hospitals even in remote areas.



Dr. Sankeerthana

Agrarian roots

Dr. Sankeerthana is the daughter of Shivasubramaniam and Vasanthi who have an agrarian background. The couple resides in K.Hemmanahalli village near Bogadi in Mysuru Taluk. The family still depends on agricultural income for sustenance. Dr. Sankeerthana completed her MBBS in 2015 from JSS Medical College, Mysuru and worked at the JSS Hospital till 2017.

Later she migrated to the United Kingdom and joined Torbay Hospital. After the COVID-19 pandemic, Devon has emerged as the worst affected area for the Coronavirus outbreak. Devon and Torbay Councils have reported hundreds of deaths and thousands of patients in intensive care units at many hospitals and healthcare units.

Professionalism and commitment

Doctors at Torbay Hospital are fighting a relentless battle against the killer virus. "There is a lockdown till the end of May and there is a sense of fear among people here. Our team has been following professionalism and commitment to this noble profession and we have been saving lives and I am proud to do this service," Dr. Sankeerthana told *Star of Mysore* over phone from her hospital.

On the attacks on doctors and healthcare workers in India, she said, "I have seen on TV and have read in newspapers that doctors are being attacked in India and patients are showing unruly behaviour in hospitals. This is sad. Doctors, especially Indian doctors, have great respect in foreign soils like in the UK and the USA. It is very unfortunate that they are treated shabbily and their lives are threatened in their own country."

Concerned parents

During the course of conversation, Dr. Sankeerthana said that her parents are concerned about her health and well-being. "Every day my mother Vasanthi calls me and asks me to take care. She is worried and asks about the work environment," she said.

Dr. Sankeerthana stays at a distance of 9 kilometres from the hospital. "For doctors and nurses who stay far, the hospital has provided daily transport and accommodation. Sometimes I work for 8 hours and sometimes it stretches to 16 hours. All the doctors and healthcare staff have to compulsorily take a shower inside the hospital and then leave to their homes," she says.

United as a team

"We work as a united team here and there is no barrier of nationalities and seniorities. We constantly exchange ideas and discuss always with an ultimate aim to make the patient comfortable," she says.

Back in Mysuru, her teachers recall that Dr. Sankeerthana was a studious girl. "She was my student in PUC at De Paul International Residential School and Junior College. I am proud of her achievement and it is a matter of honour for all of us," said Dr. Mamatha Sathyanarayana, a faculty at De Paul.

Dr. D.B. Natesh takes charge as MUDA Commissioner

Outgoing MUDA Commissioner P.S. Kantharaju handing over a plant to new MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh** (right) **at MUDA Office this morning.

Mysuru, May 4 (RK&DM)- KAS Officer Dr. D.B. Natesh took charge as the new Commissioner of Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) from the outgoing Commissioner P.S. Kantharaju at MUDA office on JLB road here this morning.

The Government on Saturday had transferred Kantharaju without posting and appointed Dr. Natesh in his place. Dr. Natesh, a native of Hassan district, was serving as the Deputy General Manager of Karnataka Housing Board (KHB) in Bengaluru.

Speaking to 'Star of Mysore' after assuming charge, Dr. Natesh said that working in Mysuru was not new for him as he had earlier served as Mysuru Tahsildar for a year from April 2008 to March 2009.

Noting that he has quite a long experience serving in the Revenue Department, he said that now he has got an opportunity to serve in the Urban Development Department after being appointed as MUDA Commissioner.

He further said that he will list his priorities after holding discussions with MUDA officials from all Zonal Offices regarding pending and planned projects.

MUDA Superintending Engineer Shankar, Town Planning Member B.N. Girish and other officials were present.

Dr. Brinda Desiraju on the frontline in US

Mysuru, May 4- Among a host of Mysuru-born and Mysuru-origin doctors serving in the United Kingdom and the United States in the time of COVID-19 pandemic is Dr. Brinda Desiraju.

Dr. Brinda is the daughter of Dr. D. Rajagpoal Rao, former Director of CFTRI and Dr. Vijaya Rao, a retired Deputy Director of DFRL, Mysuru. They are the residents of Saraswathipuram. Dr. Brinda graduated from JSS Medical College in 1998. She is the Fellow of American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology.

Dr. Brinda Desiraju

Dr. Brinda, a Nephrologist at New York Presbyterian-Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, is on the frontlines of the health crisis and along with her colleagues. As a Nephrologist, she is seeing that this virus causes inflammation not just in the lungs, but also in the heart and kidneys. And that as many dialysis machines are needed as ventilators.

New discovery by Kodagu-born

Dr. Jagadeesh Moodera and team at MIT

By C.P. Belliappa

Quantum Physics deals with the behaviour of subatomic particles and is arguably the most complex branch of Theoretical Physics. I do not profess to understand this highly abstract subject but know that classical laws of Physics fail at quantum levels.

It boggles the mind when told that a subatomic particle exists simultaneously at two different spots. One location could be on your table and the other on the surface of Jupiter!

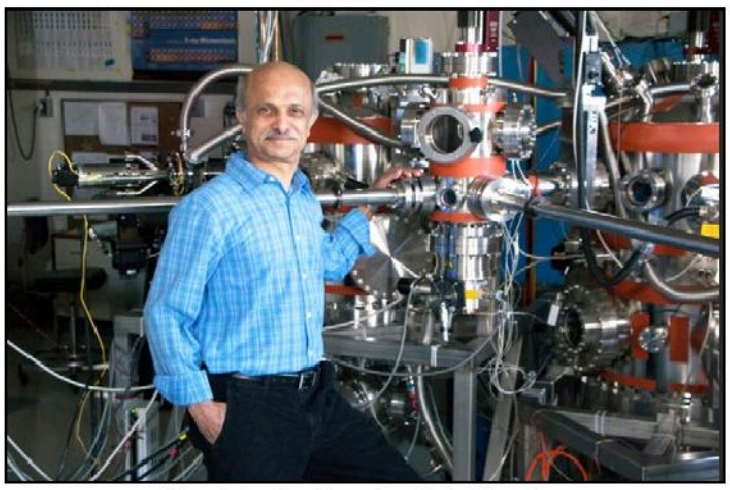
English Physicist Paul Dirac theoretically proved way back in 1930s that fundamental particles known as fermions should have a counterpart somewhere in the universe with an opposite charge — known as anti-particle.

Complicated. Difficult to fathom. I fail to comprehend. Based on this theory it is theoretically possible to have 'teleportation' that are portrayed in science fiction movies and books.

Coorg-born Physicist Dr. Jagadeesh S. Moodera has been a scientist at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) since 1981. He has several path-breaking research papers to his credit. My wife and I had the good fortune of a guided tour of his laboratory at MIT during our visit to Boston to attend the Kodava Convention-2019, in September last year.

Dr. Jagadeesh explained the intricacies of the experiments that he and his team were involved in. It was fascinating to see a huge setup with myriad tubes, probes, cables and instruments in order to create a 100% vacuum in a space of about 2 cubic centimetres.

Part of the experiment was conducted in this small space which was absolutely contamination free. There was another setup equally complicated where a space was created for the experiment which was free of any kind of vibration – not even that created by the traffic in the streets distance away, or footsteps of students in the nearby corridors. In addition, this space is cooled to -273 degree centigrade (that's as close as one could get to -273.15 degree centigrade which is absolute zero). The experiments were conducted under these ideal conditions and usually between 10 pm and 6 am when chances of vibration were the least.



Physicist Dr. Jagadeesh S. Moodera

The experiment Dr. Jagadeesh and his colleagues have been working on since 2012 was to discover what Italian Theoretical Physicist Eltore Majorana, extending on Paul Dirac's theory, had postulated in 1937 that there should be some subatomic particles that are indistinguishable from their anti-particle.

Scientists have been looking for these particles named Majorana fermions. Many theories have emerged over the years. Theoretical Physicists at MIT and elsewhere predicted that Majorana fermions may exist on solids such as gold under certain conditions. Dr. Jagadeesh and his team were on a mission to discover the existence of the elusive Majorana fermion.

The experiment, extremely complicated, needed many long hours in the laboratory. Dr. Jagadeesh explained how the delicate research was carried out at nano-particle level and observed through Scanning Tunneling Microscope (STM). STM is capable of 'feeling' the presence of atoms and molecules. 3mm x 3mm was the size of the surface on which the experiment was carried out, consisting of nano-wires of gold, grown on superconducting material: Vanadium.

MIT News dated 10th April 2020 has announced the successful sighting of the mysterious Majorana fermion by Dr. Jagadeesh Moodera and team. This is a major breakthrough. In Dr. Jagadeesh's words 'We have shown they are there, and stable, and easily scalable.' Please visit webpage: http://news.mit.edu/2020/first-majorana-fermion-metal-quantum-computing-0410

The finding that Majorana fermions are scalable and could be made into qubits (individual computational units) is spectacular. These qubits could be used to build the most powerful and error free quantum computers. This will be a step closer to the phenomenon known as Singularity, which predicts that by the year 2042 AD there will be computers that will have computing power of all the human brains put together!

Once Singularity is achieved, humans need not invent anything further. Solutions to the most complex problems will be arrived at within seconds. If we had these computers today, a remedy for the current Covid-19 would have been found in a jiffy!

Dr. Jagadeesh's wife Dr. Geetha Berera is a senior lecturer in MIT and we had an opportunity to visit her laboratory as well. The couple are totally dedicated to academics and research. Every year they visit Coorg and conduct a Quiz programme for school students. They are in the process of starting a school in Coorg under their organisation — CREATE Gurukula Trust — focusing on encouraging young minds in research activities. Meritorious students at Coorg Institute of Technology (CIT) are recipients of annual scholarships and awards instituted by Dr. Jagadeesh and Dr. Geetha. Dr. Jagadeesh and Dr. Geetha are eminent role models for young Kodavas to emulate.

Dr. Jagadeesh with his wife Dr. Geetha Berera.

Mobile Clinics screen

1,738 people on Sunday

Mysuru, May 4 (PM&BNR)- The COVID-19 Mobile Clinics, launched by the Mysuru District Administration to provide medical check-up and other medical services, on Sunday screened 1,738 people in 12 areas including Devaihanahundi, Kuvempunagar, Kuvempunagar M-Block, Vidyaranyapuram, Rajeevnagar, Kurubarahalli, Irwin Road, Paduvarahalli, Vijayanagar, Alanahalli, Ghousia Nagar and Nehru Nagar.

On Saturday, 1,797 people were screened at Hosakeri, T.K. Layout, Lakshmikanta Nagar, Lashkar Mohalla, Kukkarahalli, Nandagokula, Janata Layout, Mahadeshwara Layout, N.R. Mohalla, Bannimantap, K.R. Pura and Moveen Nagar.

Thermal screening being a mandatory procedure in the Mobile Clinic service, so far no COVID-19 symptoms have been reported.

Today (Monday), the Mobile Clinics will visit K.G. Koppal, Aravinda Nagar, Brindavan Layout, Yallamma Colony, Sharadadevinagar, Ganeshnagar, Subhashnagar, Udayagiri, Al Badar Circle, Ambedkar Colony, Yaraganahalli and Ghousianagar.

COVID affects Tourism Sector in Kodagu

Madikeri, May 4 (UNI)- This picturesque town in Karnataka, which attracts a good number of tourists throughout the year, especially during the summer season, has been hit badly by the Novel Coronavirus pandemic, which has forced the people to remain indoors.

According to Tourism Department officials, usually during April and May, visitors, including from other countries, pour in at this beautiful district, having green forests and rural landscape, to beat the scorching sun. However due to national lockdown, imposed to check the spread of COVID, there are no tourists.

The district has incurred a loss of nearly Rs. 3 crore due to the shutdown. Kodagu has nearly 800 registered home stays, besides over 2,000 unregistered home stays. It also has 500 hotels and lodges, which give employment, both directly and indirectly, to around 50,000 people, they added.

Left without a job and revenue, people are facing a severe crisis here, the officials told UNI.

The hotel and restaurant owners have urged the district administration to help them by waving off the loans taken from the banks in any other schemes.

The Home Stay Association has already submitted memorandum to the Government to respond positively, as it will take years together for these people to overcome the loss they have suffered, Joint Secretary of Home Stay Association in Kodagu Naveen Ambikal said.

Even roadside vendors, auto and taxi drivers, apart from other small businessmen have been severely hit and looking towards the Government for their survival. As per the Tourism Department records, during 2018, nearly 17.17 lakh people visited this beautiful place while the number increased to 22.22 lakh in 2019. However, it was only three lakh till March this year.

IGP boosts self-confidence of Police in his tweet

Vipul Kumar

Mysuru, May 4 (MK&KS)- To boost the self-confidence of Police personnel, who have been working day and night to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, IGP (Southern Range) Vipul Kumar has taken to Twitter by tweeting *"A piece from Police history. What we are doing today against Corona is not new. It is so for more than a century. Just strengthen our hand with your co-operation. We'll get through this time as well. Resilience is in our DNA."*

The IGP has also posted the photo of the 'Plague Duty Commendation Certificate' given on Jan. 1, 1899 to the Superintendent of Police (SP) of a district in Punjab for satisfactory performance of his duties while employed on plague duty from March 2, 1898 to July 13, 1898. IGP Vipul Kumar has stated that the Police would do their duties under any circumstance.

MysuruDistrictPolice liked
IGPSR@Mysuru @IGP_SR_... · 6h
A piece from police history. What we are doing today against Corona is not new. It is so for more than a century. Just strengthen our hand with your cooperation. We ll get through this time as well. Resilience is in our DNA.
PLAGUE DUTY COMMENDATION CERTIFICATE.

India's trust in PM Modi has grown stronger: Survey

Opposition faces severe trust deficit

New Delhi, May 4 (Agencies)- The trust level of Indians in Prime Minister Narendra Modi has zoomed in the last two years with more than three fourths or 76.3 percent, expressing "a lot of trust", according to the IANS-CVoter tracker conducted across the country. The results of the survey was released today.

PM Modi's ratings have galloped as compared to 2018 when 58.6 percent of respondents in the tracker had expressed "a lot of trust" in his leadership. The spectacular ratings come at a time when India is battling Coronavirus and PM Modi's handling of the situation has drawn praise within the country and globally also.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has praised the Modi Government's decision to put in place a Coronavirus lockdown across India.

"World Health Organisation commends India's timely and tough actions to stop COVID-19. It may be early to talk about results in numbers, but a six-week nationwide lockdown to facilitate effective physical distancing, coupled with expansion of core public health measures such as detection, isolation and tracing contact of COVID-19 positive people, would go a long way in arresting the virus spread," WHO had said.

The net trust factor in the tracker, which is a measure of trust shows that 69.8 percent of respondents have shown a lot of trust in PM Modi's leadership as against a much smaller number of 42.3 percent in 2018, a massive positive change of 27.5 percent. Those who showed no trust at all have come down to only 6.5 percent compared to a higher 16.3 percent in 2018.

Lack of trust in the Opposition

The survey finds that there is a lack of trust in the Opposition among the people. The Opposition, which moved in a calculated manner during COVID-19 but confined itself to suggestions and criticisms, could not garner the trust of the citizens, the survey found.

As per the survey, only 19.4 percent of people have "a lot of trust" in the Opposition and 31.7 percent have "some trust" in it, while a whopping 38.2 percent have "no trust at all" in it. The balance 10.7 percent did not have any opinion on the issue.

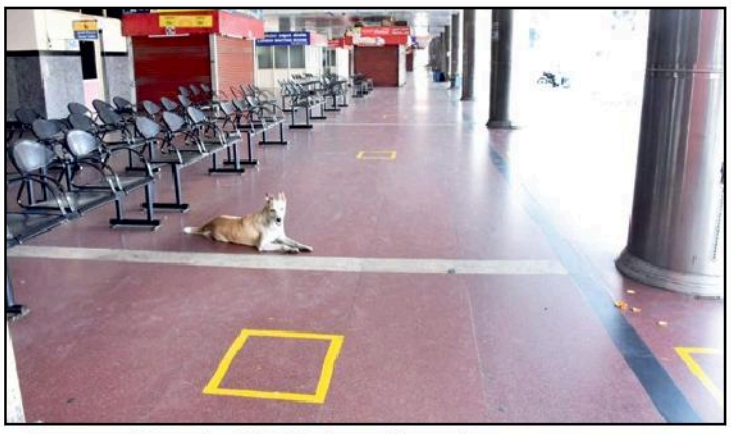
Interestingly, 24 percent of Muslims did not show any trust in Opposition followed by 16.4 percent of Sikhs and 4 percent of Christians.

The majority community has also least confidence in the Opposition with upper caste Hindus going for the Government with 50.4 percent do not trust the Opposition at all followed by OBCs with 40 percent. The Scheduled Castes (35.9 percent) and Scheduled Tribes (38.3 percent) have also lost confidence in the Opposition.

Expecting resumption of bus services…

KSRTC Officials draw

'social distance' boxes for passengers at Sub-Urban Bus Stand



Mysuru, May 4 (PM&DM)- With the State Government gradually lifting COVID-19 lockdown regulations in phases, the KSRTC authorities are making preparations at the sub-urban bus stand in anticipation of resumption of bus services soon.

The KSRTC had suspended all bus services after the Union Government announced nationwide lockdown in the last week of March and since then there has been no bus service to anywhere resulting in huge losses to the transport Corporation. But now, the officials are hoping that bus operations will resume soon with phased relaxation of curbs.

As a first step in this regard, the authorities have drawn square boxes at all platforms in the sub-urban bus stand for passengers to maintain social distancing while boarding buses. The boxes are marked in yellow colour at a distance of 5 ft. from each other in keeping with social distancing norms.

Loses daily earnings of Rs. 1.17 crore

KSRTC Mysuru Rural Divisional Controller R. Ashok Kumar said that square boxes have been drawn at all the platforms in the bus stand. The Division is making all preparations well in advance to operate buses once the lockdown curbs are lifted, he said and added that the Division has lost daily earnings of Rs. 85 lakh due to stoppage of bus services.

KSRTC Mysuru Urban Divisional Controller S.P. Nagaraj said that measures will be taken to draw square boxes at the city bus stand too.

Pointing out that they are prepared to resume services once the lockdown ends, he said that the Division is losing Rs.32 lakh earnings per day due to the suspension of bus services. So the KSRTC Mysuru is losing daily earnings of Rs. 1.17 crore.

Shops selling essential commodities open in city

Mysuru, May 4 (PM&KS)- Following relaxation given by the District Administration, the city roads were buzzing with vehicles as shops selling essential commodities opened for business this morning.

While social distancing was maintained at some places, people crowded at a few shops as their movement time was to end at 12 noon. But D. Devaraj Urs Road, the busiest road in city with many business establishments, wore a deserted look as the shops were closed. The road has shops selling readymade garments, footwear, jewellery and fancy items etc. that are not allowed to operate.

Apart from grocery shops, mobile phone recharge shops, stationery shops, milk booths, liquor shops etc., shops selling electrical and electronic items, paint and hardware shops, fancy stores and garment shops, books store, hardware were also open in various extensions of city. Though permission is given to open single shops, many serial shops were also open, violating the orders.

A few bakeries and hotels were also open and are providing only parcel service. Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda, speaking to *Star of Mysore*, said that almost all bakeries and hotels in city were providing parcel service and are following the orders issued by the Government, District Administration and the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC).

He said that though there are a lot of bakeries and hotels in Mandi Police limits, permission has not been given to them to conduct business as the areas under Mandi Police limits are said to be sensitive.

K.T. Street, another busiest street in the heart of the city with shops selling electrical and electronic items such as computers, remote controls, CCTV cameras, mobiles phones and accessories also wore a deserted look as only a few grocery stores and liquor shops have been permitted to conduct business.

Meanwhile, Dileep Kumar, President of Mysuru Electronics and Computer Dealers Association, told *SOM* that though computers have become a part of essential items, it is still not included in that category and added that when permission is given for the sale of liquor, the Government should also give permission for sales and service of computers which are not only essential but a necessity.

Vehicles on road after 12 noon

Though permission is given for the public to purchase essential commodities from 7 am to 12 noon, people were still found moving around in their vehicles to purchase necessary items. Police personnel were seen stopping the vehicles and reminding them about the guidelines issued by the City Police Commissioner besides warning them of facing legal action for violating orders.

Containment order withdrawn

Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar has withdrawn the containment order imposed on a few areas in the city. The orders were relaxed for two places, Raja Bangle Store Road in Meena Bazar and 5th Main, 14th Cross, Gokulam in the city. It may be noted that the DC had withdrawn orders for a few areas on Friday.

Serpentine queues outside liquor shops

(Continued from page 1)

At a liquor outlet in Siddalingapura, Police had to resort to mild lathi-charge as people refused to follow social distancing norms and were seen standing very close to each other in the long queues. Police, including the traffic cops, were hardly seen at signals and checkpoints after the lockdown was lifted today in non-containment areas and instead, they were found outside the 182 wine stores and 35 MSIL outlets managing the crowd.

A minimum of 150 to 200 people were found in front of each shop where boxes were drawn for the people to stand. At an outlet on D. Devaraj Urs Road, over 200 people were standing in a serpentine queue to buy liquor. Similar situation was witnessed on Chamaraja Double Road at a few liquor outlets.

Fearing that the stock might get over, people were hurrying to buy liquor. However, officials said that there was enough stock. Queues were witnessed in outlets at Vontikoppal, K.T. Street — some women were found standing in queues here — Ring Road Junction, H.D. Deve Gowda Circle, near Alanahalli Police Station, Bannur Road Junction, APMC Bandipalya Junction and on KRS Road.

Meanwhile at an outlet on Bengaluru-Nilgiri Road, the Police was forced to shut down a liquor shop due to overcrowding. Crowds gathered in huge numbers and refused to abide by the social distancing norms. Though boxes had been drawn in front of the shop and the Police were deployed to keep a tab, it didn't help. Eventually, the shop owner downed the shutters and refused to open until and unless the customers adhered to the norms. The shop was opened only after they toed the line.

Inter-district pass to enter Mysuru

(Continued from page 1)

Home quarantined: In another development today, some people from Mysuru who were stranded in Bengaluru were brought to Mysuru in a KSRTC bus. After arrival, they were put under home quarantine. Due to social distancing norms, only 30 passengers occupied the bus.

As the bus reached Sathagalli KSRTC Depot, officials from Health and Family Welfare Department, who had opened a dedicated counter at the bus stop, screened them with a thermal scanner. Passengers who arrived included senior citizens and pregnant women. They were asked to furnish their residential address and phone numbers.

Before allowing them to exit the bus stop, officials put a seal on their upper palm and were asked to maintain distance from their family members. They were instructed to stay separately within the house up to May 18 till they complete the mandatory 14-day home quarantine period.

Ration kits to porters and house-keeping staff at City Railway Station

P.Srinivasu, Chief Workshop Manager, South Western Railway, Ashokapuram, flanked by Aparna Garg, Divisional Railway Manager, Mysuru, handing over ration kits to porters and others at Mysuru Railway Station on May 1 as Priya Shetty, Divisional Commercial Manager looks on.

Mysuru, May 4- Licensed luggage porters and contractual house-keeping employees at Mysuru Railway Station are among the worst affected daily wage earners because of COVID-19 pandemic prompting a country-wide lockdown with total suspension of passenger-carrying trains across India.

Sensing the gravity of the situation, Mysuru Division Railway Officers' Association has already distributed over 300 ration kits on different occasions in the last one month to these people in financial distress.

Aparna Garg, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), South Western Railway (SWR), Mysuru Division, who is leading the campaign to support this vulnerable group of labourers in the unorganised sector, had made a fervent appeal to philanthropic organisations, NGOs and other social welfare groups to join hands in its efforts to render some support till the situation becomes normal. In continuation of its endeavour to help the marginalised sector, Mysuru Division teamed up with a few individuals from corporate world, Officers from Railway Workshop led by Chief Workshop Manager, P. Srinivasu and Officers from Construction Wing of the Railways to provide a little respite by donating about 85 ration kits to the licensed luggage porters and house-keeping staff working in Mysuru Railway Station.

The DRM has thanked the team for this noble gesture which has come as a big relief to these economically weaker section of the society, according to a press release from Priya Shetty, Divisional Commercial Manager & PRO.

Corona in the eyes of Cartoonist: Expo tomorrow

Mysuru, May 4- City-based Himalaya Foundation has organised an exhibition of cartoons by city's well-known cartoonist and Fullbrighter M. V. Nagendra Babu under the title "Corona in the eyes of Cartoonist" at Jaladarshini Guest House in city on May 5.

Social activist Dr. Raghuram Vajpayee will be releasing the cartoons at 11 am.

Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra; City BJP leader R. Raghu; KMPK Charitable Trust President Vikram Iyengar and others will take part on the programme, according to a press release from Anantha, President of the Foundation.

COVID - 19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	4,762
Persons who have completed 14 days' isolation	:	4,658
Persons isolated in home for 14 days	:	93
Persons isolated in hospital for active cases	:	11
Total samples tested	:	4,623
Samples found negative	:	4,533
Samples found positive (cumulative)	:	90
Persons cured / discharged	:	79
Death toll so far in Mysuru	:	0

MANDYA

Total positive cases in Mandya	:	28
Persons cured / discharged	:	7
Death toll so far in Mandya	:	0

KARNATAKA & INDIA

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	651
Persons cured / discharged	:	321
Death toll so far in Karnataka	:	27
Total active cases in India	:	29,453
Persons cured / discharged	:	11,706
Death toll so far in India	:	1,373

(Note: Figures till 5 pm)

COVID-19 District Emergency Control Room

The Mysuru District Emergency Control Room for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is functional 24x7 and has a team of operators and medical professionals who are working in shifts. All related queries will be handled professionally and necessary guidance will be provided to all callers, according to Mysuru DC.

Mysuru Helpline numbers
1077 or 0821-2423800
Karnataka Helpline number: 104
Central Helpline number:
011-23978046
Email: ncov2019@gmail.com

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